

tions which are to be satisfied hereafter—a destiny which he cannot accomplish here.

And the best men—those who have made their mark, and left it upon the history of the world—these have either come to this at last, as the solution of it all—or else they have gone out confessing and bewailing the failure of life. It is wonderful how the experience of such men corroborates the testimony of the scriptures as to the vanity of life.

Bismarck, the man who made the age can escape or conquer as these begin to fall upon him—said: "If this were the last of it, life would not be worth the trouble of rising in the morning and retiring at night." Edmund Burke, at the close of a career which left his name foremost among those that "star the story of the world"—when affliction fell upon his darkened home, he wrote the letter to Lord Aberdeen in which he said: "I very much deceive myself if, in this dark season, I would give a peck of refuse wheat for all that the world calls fame or honor."

These things alone have never satisfied the wants of men. Because, however they may minister to the life that now is, they are not sufficient for that which is to come. And human experience proves that these are so joined together that you cannot satisfy the one without the other. Our worldly enterprises do not go far enough. It is right and necessary to plan for this life—to provide for the future—for the time when you are 70 or 80 years old, but what are you going to do when you are 80,000?

This is a legitimate, pertinent, practical question. And any system that claims to meet the needs of man must answer it. Christianity, practical Christianity, and that alone, does answer it. It is the only thing that covers the ground of his physical and his moral, spiritual nature.

If it fails to do this, it is because we have suffered it to deteriorate. We are sufficiently alive to the evils of a depreciated currency. We do not seem to know how much we are suffering from a depreciated religion. Men will not take it. But give them true religion, pure and undefiled, and they will receive it gladly. In political economy they tell us that the demand determines the supply. But the people would not buy. They were satisfied with the tallow candle which they had been using all their lives. Then the company shipped a carload of lamps, and sent their agents thro the country. They took the lamps into the houses, lighted them, and left them burning. They drove the candle out and sold their oil because it was what the people needed, tho they did not know it.

It is so with the world. Men sit in semi darkness, trying to satisfy themselves with its flickering rush-light of reason and science. And they naturally refuse the cold and formal invitations of religion. But let them see its real light. Let Christian men and women enter the home and light it with the true Christianity—the love of Christ—and it will drive out all question as to its profitableness. The world will recognize the

true light when demonstrated. Men will receive it, for they will see that it does pay. They will acknowledge as true for this age these very old words of our text, and the words which immediately follow it: "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance."

They accept, for it proves the searching they want, something to show them the meaning of their lives—to flash the rays of a higher purpose down into the dark problem of this life and make it plain to them—as glorious in their eyes as it is in the sight of God, who planned it for eternity. He sees the end and purpose of it all, and He looks upon its trials and its struggle here as He looks not on the ministry of angels and archangels round His throne.

For men are working out their eternal destiny here. They are serving God as really, and must serve Him as faithfully, in the humblest of their daily, hourly duties here, as in the highest act of worship which they shall offer Him in heaven.

Out of the toil and care, the battle and the victory of this life must come at last the glory and the life of heaven.

#### Maxims

C. E. World.

Generosity is stingy with cheap advice.

To make a big fool, inflate a small man.

A steam-engine cannot work without puffs, but a man can.

Gossip can run a wholesale business on a peanut-stand capital.

Pride in being exact lives next door to the cruelty of being exacting.

There are occasions when it may be more devout to say, "Let us laugh," than "Let us pray."

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"Noah's wife," was Tommy's guess.

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